

10-1-1985

Employment Situation, October 1985

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Bureau of Employment Security

Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalmaine.com/cwri_docs

Recommended Citation

Maine Department of Labor, Maine Bureau of Employment Security, and Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research, "Employment Situation, October 1985" (1985). *Center for Workforce Research and Information Documents*. 431.
https://digitalmaine.com/cwri_docs/431

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Labor at Digital Maine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Center for Workforce Research and Information Documents by an authorized administrator of Digital Maine. For more information, please contact statedocs@maine.gov.

BATH-BRUNSWICK LABOR MARKET AREA

The unemployment rate in the Bath-Brunswick Labor Market Area remained unchanged at 3.2 percent in October. The October unemployment rate was the lowest October rate ever recorded in this area. However, the end-of-summer tourist season resulted in a normal reduction in the size of the local civilian labor force which fell from 25,060 to 24,100. Resident employment declined from 24,270 to 23,320, with seasonal layoffs in retail trade and services associated with the summer tourist trade. Unemployment decreased from 790 to 780. Last year 910 persons were unemployed and the unemployment rate was 3.5 percent.

BIDDEFORD LABOR MARKET AREA

Economic conditions, measured in terms of the unemployment rate, improved somewhat during October in the Biddeford Labor Market Area. A drop in the number of unemployed persons from 860 in September to 800 in October, coupled with resident employment falling from 24,010 to 23,330, resulted in the local unemployment rate decreasing from 3.5 percent to 3.3 percent. Last year at this time, the unemployment rate stood at 5.2 percent. This October, manufacturing employment changed little. Nonmanufacturing employment fell, as losses occurred in nondomestic services and agriculture. The local unemployment rate of 3.3 percent recorded in October remains below the state and national rates of 3.9 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively.

LEWISTON-AUBURN METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

The employment situation in the Lewiston-Auburn Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) remained virtually unchanged in October. Resident employment declined from 39,500 in September to 39,400 in October, as job gains in retail trade, services, and local government were slightly offset by layoffs in textile mill products, contract construction, and agriculture. Unemployment fell from 2,100 to 2,000. The small declines in both resident employment and unemployment caused the local unemployment rate to fall from 5.0 percent in September to 4.8 percent in October. This was the lowest local October unemployment rate since 1978. Meanwhile, the national unemployment rate dropped from 6.9 percent in September to 6.8 percent in October, while the state's rate remained unchanged at 3.9 percent.

PORTLAND METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

The employment situation in the Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area improved slightly during October. Resident employment increased from 101,500 in September to 101,800 in October, while the number unemployed dropped 100 to 2,500. The resulting unemployment rate eased downward from 2.5 percent to 2.4 percent. A year ago, 3,700 people were unemployed and the rate stood at 3.5 percent. This month's employment gains were restricted to two areas. In the manufacture of transportation equipment, employment levels returned to normal as the strike at Bath Iron Works ended. The second and larger gain occurred in state and local government, largely due to seasonal increases in the number of work-study students and part-time instructors at state and local school systems. There were also losses in trade, services, and agricultural employment. While the local economy registered an unemployment rate of 2.4 percent in October, state and national rates were higher at 3.9 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively.

RUMFORD LABOR MARKET AREA

The unemployment rate in the Rumford Labor Market Area dipped slightly from 4.9 percent in September to 4.5 percent in October. Total joblessness fell from 470 to 430, which was mostly due to unemployed students leaving the labor force. Resident employment declined from 9,200 to 9,130, with layoffs in paper manufacturing and retail trade. Last year 9,150 residents were employed, while 760 were unemployed and the unemployment rate was 7.7 percent. The October 1985 local unemployment rate of 4.5 percent was the lowest October rate on record. It was slightly above the corresponding statewide rate of 3.9 percent, but considerably below the national rate of 6.8 percent.

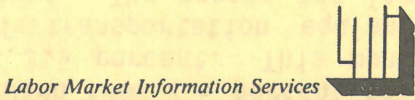
WATERVILLE LABOR MARKET AREA

The unemployment rate in the Waterville Labor Market Area followed historical trends and rose slightly during October. Resident employment dropped to 20,580 from 21,010 in September, while the number unemployed rose from 880 to 920. The resultant unemployment rate was 0.3 percentage points higher than the 4.0 percent recorded in September. A year ago the unemployment rate was 5.1 percent and 1,130 persons were unemployed. Although this October the local unemployment rate of 4.3 percent was above the statewide rate of 3.9 percent for the third consecutive month, it remained below the national unemployment rate of 6.8 percent. Employment levels in nonmanufacturing continued to shrink slightly, with most losses occurring in services. Employment in manufacturing also declined somewhat, as small employment gains in apparel were not enough to offset losses in paper and allied products and textile mill products.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY MAINE LABOR MARKET AREA, NEW ENGLAND STATES, AND THE UNITED STATES ^{1/}

AREAS	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84
MAINE-Statewide	545.8	566.0	557.2	524.7	544.2	529.5	21.1	21.8	27.7	3.9	3.9	5.0
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	48,000	46,600	48,000	46,400	45,100	46,000	1,600	1,500	2,000	3.3	3.2	4.2
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	41,400	41,600	42,300	39,400	39,500	39,600	2,000	2,100	2,700	4.8	5.0	6.4
Portland MSA	104,300	104,100	105,800	101,800	101,500	102,100	2,500	2,600	3,700	2.4	2.5	3.5
Portsmouth-Dover- Rochester MSA 3/	105,560	108,450	103,500	102,860	105,410	99,260	2,700	3,040	4,240	2.6	2.8	4.1
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	30,060	30,610	30,980	28,780	29,450	29,380	1,280	1,160	1,600	4.3	3.8	5.2
Bath-Brunswick	24,100	25,060	26,280	23,320	24,270	25,370	780	790	910	3.2	3.2	3.5
Belfast	10,490	11,020	11,340	9,780	10,290	10,500	710	730	840	6.8	6.6	7.4
Biddeford	24,130	24,870	23,680	23,330	24,010	22,440	800	860	1,240	3.3	3.5	5.2
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	10,050	10,870	9,150	9,720	10,550	8,790	330	320	360	3.3	2.9	3.9
Calais-Eastport	15,110	15,610	15,990	14,360	14,910	14,950	750	700	1,040	5.0	4.5	6.5
Carlbou-Presque Isle	20,910	27,630	21,390	19,740	26,040	19,610	1,170	1,590	1,780	5.6	5.8	8.3
Central Penobscot	4,520	4,460	4,430	4,340	4,300	4,230	180	160	200	4.0	3.6	4.5
Dover-Foxcroft	6,550	6,540	6,690	6,270	6,280	6,330	280	260	360	4.3	4.0	5.4
Ellsworth	23,450	24,700	22,950	22,790	24,030	22,010	660	670	940	2.8	2.7	4.1
Farmington	12,660	12,780	13,440	11,830	11,930	12,440	830	850	1,000	6.6	6.7	7.4
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,940	8,470	6,470	5,660	8,090	6,130	280	380	340	4.7	4.5	5.3
Greenville	1,440	1,570	1,740	1,380	1,510	1,630	60	60	110	4.2	3.8	6.3
Houlton	5,290	7,520	5,400	5,040	7,150	5,100	250	370	300	4.7	4.9	5.6
Kittery-York 3/	23,350	24,000	22,700	23,120	23,760	22,290	230	240	410	1.0	1.0	1.8
Lincoln-Howland	6,220	6,330	6,330	5,920	6,010	5,980	300	320	350	4.8	5.1	5.5
Livermore Falls	3,440	3,720	4,050	3,190	3,440	3,690	250	280	360	7.3	7.5	8.9
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,180	5,590	4,520	3,930	5,340	4,240	250	250	280	6.0	4.5	6.2
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,430	5,470	5,430	5,240	5,250	5,230	190	220	200	3.5	4.0	3.7
Norway-Paris	9,130	9,040	9,050	8,650	8,590	8,430	480	450	620	5.3	5.0	6.9
Patten-Island Falls	2,740	3,730	2,620	2,650	3,600	2,510	90	130	110	3.3	3.5	4.2
Rockland	18,530	19,190	19,600	17,960	18,560	18,760	570	630	840	3.1	3.3	4.3
Rumford	9,560	9,670	9,910	9,130	9,200	9,150	430	470	760	4.5	4.9	7.7
Sanford	12,780	12,990	13,440	11,930	12,190	12,750	850	800	690	6.7	6.2	5.1
Sebago Lakes Region	10,120	10,050	9,730	9,820	9,730	9,320	300	320	410	3.0	3.2	4.2
Skowhegan	21,940	22,120	23,010	20,750	20,920	21,490	1,190	1,200	1,520	5.4	5.4	6.6
Southwest Penobscot	8,420	8,410	8,400	7,840	7,840	7,790	580	570	610	6.9	6.8	7.3
Waterville	21,500	21,890	22,360	20,580	21,010	21,230	920	880	1,130	4.3	4.0	5.1
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,709.7	1,686.0	n/a	1,630.7	1,616.0	n/a	79.0	70.0	n/a	4.6	4.2
Massachusetts	3,040.0	3,066.0	3,053.6	2,925.0	2,946.0	2,949.5	115.0	121.0	104.1	3.8	3.9	3.4
New Hampshire	540.3	541.7	529.0	526.4	526.6	512.2	13.9	15.1	16.8	2.6	2.8	3.2
Rhode Island	509.4	508.8	500.6	490.2	489.1	478.5	19.2	19.7	22.1	3.8	3.9	4.4
Vermont	282.5	277.9	279.0	271.5	266.6	269.7	10.9	11.3	9.3	3.9	4.1	3.3
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	6,105.1	6,048.2	n/a	5,859.0	5,825.9	n/a	246.1	222.3	n/a	4.0	3.7
UNITED STATES 4/	116,346	115,850	114,250	108,428	107,867	106,262	7,917	7,984	7,989	6.8	6.9	7.0

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
Note: n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.
Footnotes
1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.
4/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.
THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.



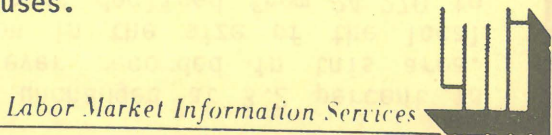
A BRIEF ANALYSIS COVERING SELECTED MAINE LABOR MARKET AREAS

AUGUSTA LABOR MARKET AREA

A layoff at a local shoe shop was partially responsible for increased unemployment in the Augusta Labor Market Area in October. Resident employment dropped from 29,450 in September to 28,780 in October, while the number unemployed rose from 1,160 to 1,280. The resultant unemployment rate of 4.3 percent was above the 3.8 percent recorded a month ago. Last year in October the unemployment rate was 5.2 percent and 1,600 were jobless. This October, the local rate climbed above the state rate of 3.9 percent and remained below the national rate of 6.8 percent. Employment levels fell throughout the manufacturing sector. Though most significant losses occurred in leather and leather products, smaller losses were also noted in textile mill products, metals and machinery, and printing and publishing. In addition, small employment losses were recorded in retail trade and services.

BANGOR METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Resident employment in the Bangor Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) rose from 45,100 in September to 46,400 in October, while the number of unemployed edged upward from 1,500 to 1,600. The resulting unemployment rate rose from 3.2 percent to 3.3 percent. A year ago 2,000 residents were unemployed and the unemployment rate stood at 4.2 percent. Corresponding state and national unemployment rates for this October were 3.9 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively. Manufacturing employment in the Bangor MSA remained relatively unchanged in October, with small gains in a number of industries being offset by seasonal layoffs in petroleum refining and related industries and temporary layoffs in leather and leather products. On a more positive note, a \$1.3 million expansion program at the Anzac Electronics Division of Adams-Russell Co., Bangor is expected to create approximately 40 to 50 new jobs over the next 12 to 24 months. Anzac Electronics manufactures electronic components, instruments, and subsystems primarily for the defense industry. In nonmanufacturing, all major industry groups recorded higher employment in October with the exception of finance, insurance, and real estate. Contract construction and government registered the largest employment gains. Construction activity continues to be a major influence in the local economy. Employment averaged 1,480 during the first 10 months of 1985, or an increase of approximately 17 percent compared with the corresponding months in 1984. Employment rose sharply in government, due largely to an over-the-month increase in the number of work-study students at the area University of Maine campuses.



CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY MAINE COUNTY

STATISTICAL DATA SERIES: CCLF 10-85

COUNTY 1/	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 2/			UNEMPLOYMENT			RATE			RESIDENT EMPLOYED		
	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84	Oct. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 84
ANDROSCOGGIN	46,830	47,220	48,380	2,320	2,380	3,130	5.0	5.0	6.5	44,510	44,840	45,250
AROOSTOOK	38,160	51,720	39,550	2,000	2,670	2,770	5.2	5.2	7.0	36,160	49,050	36,780
CUMBERLAND	112,550	112,740	114,650	2,740	2,870	3,880	2.4	2.5	3.4	109,810	109,870	110,770
FRANKLIN	12,660	12,780	13,440	830	850	1,000	6.6	6.7	7.4	11,830	11,930	12,440
HANCOCK	23,450	24,700	22,950	660	670	940	2.8	2.7	4.1	22,790	24,030	22,010
KENNEBEC	49,880	50,780	51,590	2,140	1,980	2,640	4.3	3.9	5.1	47,740	48,800	48,950
KNOX	16,530	17,090	17,490	510	530	760	3.1	3.1	4.3	16,020	16,560	16,730
LINCOLN	12,520	13,470	11,800	410	440	490	3.3	3.3	4.2	12,110	13,030	11,310
OXFORD	20,520	20,540	20,730	930	960	1,470	4.5	4.7	7.1	19,590	19,580	19,260
PENOBSCOT	71,890	70,900	71,950	2,800	2,740	3,380	3.9	3.9	4.7	69,090	68,160	68,570
PISCATAQUIS	7,990	8,120	8,430	340	320	470	4.3	3.9	5.6	7,650	7,800	7,960
SAGadahoc	12,810	13,300	13,830	490	510	510	3.8	3.8	3.7	12,320	12,790	13,320
SOMERSET	21,940	22,120	23,010	1,190	1,200	1,520	5.4	5.4	6.6	20,750	20,920	21,490
WALDO	12,050	12,520	12,870	760	770	870	6.3	6.2	6.8	11,290	11,750	12,000
WASHINGTON	15,110	15,610	15,990	750	700	1,040	5.0	4.5	6.5	14,360	14,910	14,950
YORK	70,850	72,400	70,510	2,180	2,210	2,830	3.1	3.1	4.0	68,670	70,190	67,680

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data are not seasonally adjusted. All data are on a place of residence basis. Members of the armed forces are excluded.

2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
AS A FEDERAL - STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Labor Market Information Services

